TRIBUTARY

WATER EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER WINTER 2002

DNR Gets a Haircut

By Molly Waters, Water Conservation Coordinator, DWRe

Among the seven principles of water-wise landscaping, maintenance is perhaps the most overlooked. While having the ability to be low maintenance, water-wise landscaping is not "no maintenance".

The water-wise landscape at the Department of Natural Resources in Salt Lake City was installed in 1991. Over the past 11 years this garden has flourished and grown into a beautiful, although somewhat unruly, menagerie.

It was decided that we would completely trim back the garden this year. In late November, a landscaping crew came to the DNR and did just that. Almost all plants in the garden were cut back close to ground level, large trees were trimmed, and a new thick layer of mulch was added to cover all bare spots.

Cutting back plants in a well established garden is an excellent way to give a garden a new lease on life. Most plants can be cut back, and will start growing again in the spring. Herbaceous perennials can generally be cut back to the ground each year, and many of the more woody species benefit from an occasional trim as well.

Plants that have been cut back will generally grow very quickly in the spring, as the plant has a disproportionately large root system to support new top growth. Also, the plant will have a more manicured and compact look when it grows back, which can really help to tame a wild garden.

If you have questions about what can and can't be cut back to the ground, ask your local extension agent. However, my advice is to experiment!

The DNR garden looks very lifeless at the moment. But when spring comes, it will be thrilling to see all these plants putting out entirely new growth and thriving.

Water Education Banquet

By Rick Webster, Water Education Coordinator, DWRe

The 18th Annual Water Education Awards Banquet was held this year on November 23, 2002 at The Gathering Place in West Jordan, Utah.

The awards banquet honors outstanding educators and students in water-related topics. A poster contest was held among all the schools in the state, and winners were chosen from each grade, K through 6.

The awards were as follows:

Outstanding Water Educator Award
Mr. Ty Robinson, Provo High School, Provo

Citizen of the Year Award
LeRoy Hooton, Salt Lake City Corporation

Water Education Special Service Award
Cheryl Izatt, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District

Juniper Award
Earl Jackson, USU Extension

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Kindergarten
Jaylyn Oliver, Huntington Elementary, Lawrence

First Grade
Brynn Ivy Okerlund, Salina Elementary, Aurora

Second Grade
Kourtnee Christensen, Ferron Elementary, Ferron

Third Grade
Whitney Roper, Ferron Elementary, Ferron

Fourth Grade
Christina Simmons, Garland Elementary, Garland

Fifth Grade
Aly Van Meeteren, Plain City Elementary, Plain City

Sixth Grade
Jededia Prettyman, Castle Dale Elementary, Price

Region 1
Shay Dawn Hatch, Alice Harris Intermediate, Deweyville

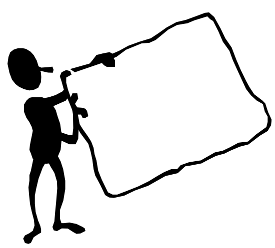
Region 2
Brian Jepson, Lone Peak Elementary, Sandy

Region 3
Kenslie Weicks, Plain City Elementary, Ogden

Region 4
Delainee Bliss, Delta North Elementary, Hinkley

Region 5
JT Noyes, Ferron Elementary, Ferron

Grand Prize Winner
Aly Van Meeteren, Plain City Elementary, Plain City



Each winner received a trophy, and the grand prize winner won a 5-day vacation to Lake Powell with her family. The vacation includes use of a houseboat and a VIP tour of the dam, courtesy of the Bureau of Reclamation.

For more information on next year's water education poster contest, contact Rick Webster at rickwebster@utah.gov or (801) 538-7299.

FACTOIDS

Let's Do the Numbers

8	Percent of all the earth's water that is fresh water
1	Gallons it takes to process a quarter pound of hamburger
4	Thousands of gallons of water a corn field gives off each day
2	Thousands of gallons of water to make four new tires
39	Thousands of gallons of water to make a new car
2.5	Quarts of water needed daily to maintain health
34	Billions of gallons processed daily by water utilities in the US
3.5	Billions of dollars it takes annually to operate those water utilities
175	Billions of dollars it would cost to replace all the existing water infrastructure

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Division of Water Resources

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